*January 6, 2016 email to Kiki Paschall from Zachary Peoples, Dallas Water Utillities*

Good Morning Ms. Paschall:

I am responding to your December 30, 2015, email to Dallas City Council Member Gates related to sewer system improvement planning, sewer debris in the alleyway and Green Construction Codes.

The Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) is aware of the sanitary sewer overflows (SSO’s) that occurred in your neighborhood during the record rainfall events in North Texas area over the past few months. Further, we recognized the need for sanitary sewer system improvements in your specific area.

Our 2007 Wastewater Master Plan Study recommended the replacement and upsizing of the existing 18” to a 30” wastewater interceptor along Joe’s Creek from Forest Lane to Northwest Highway; the pipeline project is current underway. Phase 1 of the project is from Merrell Road to Lombardy Lane, approximately 11,500 feet and is scheduled to begin construction in late 2017. Phase 2 is from Lombardy Lane to Northwest Highway, approximately 7,000 feet and construction will begin in the spring of 2018. Lastly, Phase 3 will begin at Forest Lane to Merrell Road, approximately 12,650 feet and construction will begin in the fall of 2018. The entire pipeline project is nearly 6 miles long and will help provide additional system capacity, thus, reducing or eliminating SSO’s in the neighborhood.

DWU’s more immediate plan is to conduct an inflow and infiltration investigation of the neighborhood. The investigation will consist of internal television inspection of the pipes, smoke testing, dye water testing (if necessary) and a general inspection of the neighborhood to evaluate all sanitary sewer appurtenances. As a result of the findings, it may become necessary to perform sewer cleaning, system point repairs and / or City lateral repairs. This activity could take as long as 4 – 6 weeks withstanding any unforeseen conditions. The aforementioned activities will help to identify problem areas in the system so that we can make the appropriate corrections.

Last week, the Manager of the Wastewater Collection Division (Luis Bodington) met with you and Ms. Barbato of 3846 Pallos Verdas Drive.  At the time of Luis’ visit, there was no sewer debris found in the alley, however, a City clean-up crew had already performed a cleaning of the alleyway. We have also scheduled to install a sewer lateral cleanout at the abovementioned address to help the City diagnose Ms. Barbato’s sewer concerns and facilitate future maintenance efforts by the City.

Lastly, as it relates to the Green Construction Codes, the City participated in the original 2006 effort by the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to develop a region-wide approach to implementing Green Infrastructure.  This is locally known as integrated Storm Water Management, or “iSWM”.  While currently voluntary in Dallas, this methodology focuses on including water quality improvement measures such as bio-swales and raingardens into the routine drainage design process along with the assessment of downstream velocity and erosion.  As a part of the City’s Urban Design initiative, the 1993 Drainage Manual is being updated to include the pertinent parts of the iSWM manual into the City’s drainage design process. If you have specific questions related to this area, please contact Susan Alvarez, Assistant Director in the Trinity Watershed Management Department at (214) 948-4450 or by email at susan.alvarez@dallascityhall.com.

I hope this information helps and if you have any questions, please contact me at (214) 670-3145 or by email at zachary.peoples@dallascityhall.com.

Thanks,

Zachary Peoples, Assistant Director

Wastewater Operations

Dallas Water Utilities